

MERE LYS

September 2016 Newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

Services

Coffee 10:00 am
Worship 10:30 am



September 4th
***"Prosper the Work of
Our Hands"***

September 11th
"We Dare"

September 18th
"We Defy"

September 25th
***No Service,
Smorg Clean Up
Sunday***

Looking Forward
October 2nd
Smorgasbord Sunday



A View From the Hill

I'm anticipating the calendar's turning from August to September eagerly, anxiously (they aren't the same, you know), desperately. The rains that have washed out the church driveway repeatedly this summer (and dampened my spirits just as often) and are but a drop in the floods that have ravaged Louisiana. The shootings and rampages and civil unrest and racial injustices I wrote about in last month's column. The wildfires (some the result of arson). The earthquakes. And, not on the same scale but real nonetheless, the parenting challenge of a bored and very social kid living in a rural parsonage. I want to believe that when the month changes and the season shifts toward autumn, all the summer's woes will drop away, distant memories of an unpleasant past. Fresh month, fresh season, fresh start. Right?

Or not. Just as last month I was forced to acknowledge that "acts of hatred, greed, fear turned to bloody rage spring not from demonic beings but from the souls of flawed and holy human beings," so too this month I must face the reality that the passage of time alone (especially as signified merely by the turning of a human constructed calendar page) will not undo injustice, rebuild destroyed homes, repair climate-changed weather patterns, heal broken trusts, strengthen communities or banish the occasional fits of 5th grade boredom.

Yet, the summer is morphing into fall, and we (human beings that we are) do respond to the turning of those human constructed calendar pages. While each month, each day, each moment offers us the invitation to begin again, sometimes we find it easier, more effective, to undertake new projects, and adopt new ways of interacting with our families and engaging in community affairs at the turning of those pages. Though the weather, heartbreaks, boredoms, ravages, and injustices of the summer won't melt away with our wishing it so and September won't dawn a fresh slate, still just as surely neither does our opportunity to heal, to co-create a kinder, more just and equitable world, to say yes to generosity, to love, to life, melt away with the passage of time or diminish with the changing of the season.

Here's to possibility. Here's to September.

-Lisa

Thank You!

From the board...

... to Jeremy Schmitt for setting up the tent for Bonita's funeral,
... to John M. for giving a tour of the garden,
... to all the ladies who brought cakes and salads and served at Bonita's funeral,
... to Jeanie, Nancy, and Diane who cleaned the church for the service,
... to Wayne for working on the driveway.

Board Meeting

The next Nora Board meeting will be on Sunday, September 18, following the service.

Lunch Bunch

It's time to fall into line for another Lunch Bunch season. Join us on Tuesday, Sept. 13, 11:30 a.m., at Hahn's Dining and Lounge, 206 N. Main St., Winthrop, to catch up on the summer's happenings. We look forward to seeing you there. *Lunch Bunch is a monthly, social lunch gathering, open to any Nora members, friends or visitors.*

Lisa on the Loose Resumes

Lisa will hold "office hours" at area coffee houses. Join her for drop-in conversations in your community.

During September Lisa will meet:

Wednesday the 7th Encore Coffee, St. James from 10:30 - 12:00

Tuesday the 13th River City Eatery, Windom from 11:00 - 12:30

Wednesday the 21st Ridgeway on 23rd at 2:30

Wednesday the 28th Coffee Hag, Mankato from 10:30 - 12:00



Art with Attitude

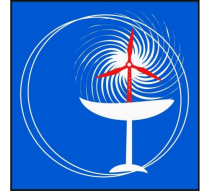
Art with Attitude will meet September 9th and 23rd in the fellowship hall. We will not schedule a basket making day until after Smorg. Our prime focus will be on making the quilts for NUMAS House and the baby mats for the well-baby program. As always everyone is welcome. You may bring your own project to work on or just come to visit and spend the day. Bring a bag lunch.

Documentary Viewing Party

On September 20 TPT Channel 2 will air "Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War." This Ken Burns documentary tells how Waitstill and Martha Sharp, a Unitarian minister and spouse, helped people escape Nazi-occupied Europe at great personal sacrifice.

Pastor Lisa's Schedule

Pastor Lisa has Mondays off.
Friday is sermon writing day.
She can be reached on her cell when not in the office: 507-766-7822.



We'll hold a viewing party/discussion that evening at a location yet to be determined. If you're interesting in attending (and/or hosting) the event, please contact the church office (norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net) by September 15. Based on the number of perspective viewers we'll choose a location and announce it via the Grapevine and at church on September 18. More information about the documentary can be found on tpt.org and uua.org.

"The story of Waitstill and Martha Sharp is one of the most incredible tales of compassion, sacrifice and heroism that I have ever heard..." said Ken Burns. "Nearly three years before America as a nation became involved in the Second World War, these two unassuming, so-called 'ordinary' Americans gave up everything they knew and loved and risked their lives to become involved in a war 4,000 miles away because they knew there were people in grave danger who needed help."

For more information: http://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/defying_action_guide.pdf
Link: [PBS Press Release](#)

Service Times

At its August meeting, the Nora Board of Trustees decided to move coffee hour to 9:30 a.m. and Sunday service to 10:00 a.m. beginning January 8, 2017. The decision was made based on the discussion of an earlier start time at last June's annual meeting. The change will remain in effect through the remainder of this church year, at which point the board, with input from the congregation, will evaluate the experiment and make a decision regarding start times going forward.

A Note From the Treasurer

Direct Deposit for Pledges Some people have requested direct deposit for pledges. To initiate this, anyone interested would have to set this up with their bank, much like an automatic payment for a utility or credit card. If you would like to make electronic pledge payments, please contact Julie Peck for Nora Church account information.

Religious Education for Children and Youth

Lisa will lead a religious education session for children, youth and adults of all ages on Saturday, September 17 in the church social hall, from 10:00 to noon. The morning will include story, craft, and ritual around the theme of the autumnal equinox, and will conclude (if you wish) with a brown bag lunch. Please RSVP to the church office by September 15 if you and/or your children/grandchild will participate.

Let the Lefse Making Continue!

Lefse making continues after great start! Let's make more lefse September 10th at 9:00. Anyone who is able to come either or both of those days should let Diane Becken (507-354-3103) know.

Smorgasbord Work List

Country Store: Jerry Allen, Sandi Bengé, Mimi Kamleiter, Shirley Olson, Ardis Wellmann, Lara Fletcher

Museum: Lee Schmitt, Algot Blomquist

Parking: Jeremy Schmitt, John Schmitt

Tickets: Warren Paulson, Kristine Paulson, Wendy Tuttle (caller)

Hosts: Jeanie Hinsman (Kaffe Stua), Julie Pec (Fellowship Hall), Nancy Bruderie (Foyer)

Buffet Table: Julie Sellner, Shannon Hoechst

Coffee: Christopher Olson

Beverages: Susan Allen

Meat Server: Christina Schmitt

Meat Slicers: (Saturday @ 12pm) Roger Breu, Lee Schmitt, Wally Wellmann, Tony Erickson, Carson Erickson

Potatoes: Edith Beckius, Kate Monnens

Carrots: Diane Becken

Cookie Trays: Michelle Bethke, Kate Becken

Appetizers: Susan Evers, Vicki Sieve, Bev Wellmann

Wait Staff-Kaffe Stua: Colleen Tasto, Courtney Schmitt, Toby Weiss, Thor Weiss, Kadence Hesse

Wait Staff-Fellowship Hall: Nora Peck, Nita Gilbert, Victoria Bayer, Tracy Schmiesing, Kristi

Paulson, Anna Bayer

Wait Staff-Iverson Room: *Karen Farrell, Cindy Backman

Take Outs: Norma Breu, Georgine Tepley

Publicity: Georgine Tepley, Jeannie Hinsman

Dishes-Kaffe Stua: Scott Schmiesing, Wayne Johnson, Gene Tepley, Lee Drogenmuller

Dishes-Fellowship: Daryl Hinsman, Alicia Bayer, Ron Peck, Daryl Hrdlicka, Dick Gurska

Clean Up (1:00): Ross Chambard, Scott Chambard

Greeters: Gil & Sally Hanson

Floater: Joy Rathman, Carol Chambard, Louise Guggisberg, Sally Anne & Dave Benson

Bread: Kate Monnens

Carrots and Celery: Janet Rosenbloom

Scrullers: Susan Evers, Georgine Tepley

Cookies-Fancy: Julie Peck, Shannon Hoechst, Colleen Tasto, Karen Farrell, Susan Allen, Tracey Schmiesing, Vicki Sieve, Louise Guggisberg, Nita Gilbert, Ryann Kaim

Romme Grot: Edith Beckius, Janet Rosenbloom, Carol Chambard, Vicki Sieve, Georgine Tepley

Flat Bread: Shirley Olson, Carol Chambard

Rice: Nancy Bruderie, Jeannie Hinsman, Julie Sellner, Jordan Rathman

Sot Suppe: Kristine Paulson

Cottage Cheese (3#): Wayne Johnson, Lorraine Becken, Ardelle Becken, Lisa Doege

Berliner Kranser: Michelle Bethke, Muriel Fredrickson, Diane Becken

Sandbakkels: Chrissie Schmitt, Edith Beckius

Milk (1 Gal): Daryl and Alicia, Scott Chambard, Jeremy Schmitt, Christopher Olson, Mimi Kamleiter, Lee Drogenmuller, Ross Chambard, Nita Gilbert, John Schmitt

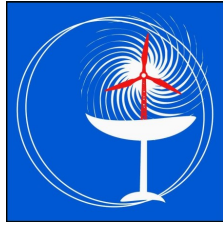
Fattigmand: Susan Evers

Rosettes: Bev Wellmann, Norma Breu

Kringla: Julie Sellner, Joy Rathman

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

12333 155th Avenue
Hanska, Minnesota 56041-4310



Phone: 507.439.6240

Website: www.norauuchurch.org

Email: norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NoraChurchUU

Thank You

The family of Bonita Blomquist would like to thank everyone who helped in any way to ease the pain in losing such a beautiful and loving human being. Whether it was a visit, a phone call, cards, memorials, all are very much appreciated.

A special thank you to all the men and women of Nora for all their help and support, prior to, during and after the memorial service. Our extra special thank you to Rev. Lisa for organizing and delivering such a beautiful and memorable service for Bonita. We appreciate and thank everyone for their love and support during this most difficult time.

Algot, Brad, Patsy, Julie and families

Kristine and Warren and families

Jerry and Kathy and families

Blood Drive

The last blood drives at Vogel Arena for this year will be held on Aug 31 1-7pm, Sept 1st 1-7pm, and Sept 2 8am-1pm.

2015-2017 Server/Greeter/Usher/ Partner List

If your name is not on this list and you would like to participate, contact Susan Allen 359-2856.

If your name is on this list and you are not able to help, please call someone on the list and try to arrange a switch, or contact Susan Allen. Contact information is in the Nora Directory. Please let Lisa or Brooke know any schedule changes so the order of service can be corrected – norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net.

ATTENTION PARTNERS: Please communicate with each other regarding food provision, as necessary.

SEPTEMBER

4—Potluck—Jeanie & Darrell Hinsman, Sally Ann & Dave Benson

11—Vicki Sieve, Julie & Ron Peck

18—Carol Chambard, Wendy Tuttle, Christopher Olson

25—Clean Up Day

OCTOBER

2—Smorgasboard—Greeters: Sally & Gil Hanson

9—Alicia Bayer & Daryl Hrdlicka, Cindy Backman

16—Shirley Olson, Lara Fletcher, Mimi Kamleiter

23—Georgine & Gene Tepley, Diane Becken

30—Kate & Jason Monnens, Nancy Brudellie

NOVEMBER

6—Potluck—Susan & Jerry Allen, Scott Chambard

13—Julie Sellner, Susan Evers, Jordan Kuelbs

20—Edith Beckius, Beverly & Wally Wellman

27—Janet Rosenbloom, Louise Guggisburg, Vicki Sieve

DECEMBER

4—Potluck—Norma & Roger Breu, Kristine & Wayne Paulson

11—Colleen & Glenn Hokenson, Lee Drogemuller

18—Diane Becken, Cindy Backman, Lara Fletcher

24—Greeters: Karen Farrell & Dick Gurska

25—Susan & Jerry Allen

*Send your news, announcements, congratulations and events to us at
norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net
or put hard copies in Brooke's mailbox!*

Notes from the Nora Office...

Please send content of any kind, for the newsletter or order of service to the Nora email. Announcements generally run for two weeks.

Order Of Service ~ content due Thursdays

October Mere Lys ~ content due Sept. 20

Church Email: norachurch@sleepyeyetel.net

Phone: 507.439.6240

*Brooke Knisley, Office Assistant
In the office Tuesdays and Fridays.*

To ♥ Keep In Touch

If you know of anyone needing our assistance or attention, please call one of the **Caring Committee** members:

Georgine Tepley (chair): 359-3060 (weekdays after 5 pm)

Shirley Olson: 354-1866

Carol Chambard: 354-2242